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# UPHOLSTERY TRADE NAMES

Definitions of Principal Trade Terms—Helpful Facts for Buyer and Seller of Decorative Household Fabrics.

PRICE, 25 CENTS

# UPHOLSTERY TRADE NAMES

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## UPHOLSTERY TERMS DEFINED.

### Materials, Styles and Processes Described.

*Allover.*—A term used in textile designing to indicate a pattern or series of figures which entirely covers the surface of the fabric.

*Antique.*—A term applied to imitations of ancient styles of lace; also to patterns irregularly or indistinctly woven to simulate effects produced in olden times.

*Appliqué.*—Materials cut out and sewed, embroidered or pasted on other materials.

*Arabesque.*—A type originated by Arabian artists. This usually consists of geometrical figures, flowers, fruits, foliage, etc., grouped together.

*Arabian Curtain.*—A lace curtain composed of a center of stout netting, edged with Arabian lace.

*Arrasene.*—An ornamental cord, consisting of a central thread covered with a velvety pile of wool or silk.

*Art Denim.*—A twilled cotton fabric, usually 36 inches wide. It is woven of selected fine yarns and dyed in plain, soft shades. This fabric is often printed in allover patterns and is used for draperies, table and furniture covers, pillow tops and other decorative purposes. See *Denim.*

*Art Fabric.*—A term employed to designate various textures used for decorative purposes.

*Aubusson Tapestry.*—One of the best known of the earlier tapestries. Made originally in the royal factory in Aubusson, France, its manufacture spread to private factories.

This fabric is used largely for wall hangings, curtains and furniture covers.

*Baize.*—A course woolen fabric finished on one side. It has a short close nap, and is dyed in plain colors. It is used principally for desk and table covers, also for curtains.

*Banbury Plush.*—A woolen variety of upholstery plush which was first made in the town of Banbury, England.

*Barré.*—Materials having stripes or bars running across the cloth, produced by various processes of weaving or printing. See also *Bayadère.*

*Basket Cloth.*—A fabric largely used for decorative purposes, woven in imitation of the open pleated work employed in making baskets or other articles of straw, reed, cane, etc. The effect is always of a cross interlacing of one or more strands of warp and filling.

*Batting.*—Raw cotton or wool carded into sheets of varying thickness, used for padding chiefly.

*Bayadère.*—A pattern effect produced by stripes running across the width of the goods. See also *Barré.*

*Binding.*—A narrow strip of material used to protect raw edges.

*Bobbinet.*—One of the simplest forms of cotton netting, in which a six-cornered mesh is produced by machinery. Bobbinet forms the foundation of lace curtains. See also *Leavers Lace.*

*Brocade.*—A fabric upon which the ornamental pattern is brought out in relief by raising, or floating, a number of threads, either in warp or weft.

*Brocatel.*—A form of brocade, heavy in texture, woven of cotton or silk, or both, in large, bold patterns. The figures are raised

in strong relief. This fabric is used chiefly for draperies, furniture coverings, etc.

*Brussels Lace Curtain.*—A window hanging consisting of a foundation of fine netting, ornamented with a delicate pattern, usually of vines, applied in heavy thread by a bonnaz machine, with additional details filled in by hand.

*Bunting.*—A plain, soft-woven worsted fabric, used chiefly for flags and draperies.

*Burlap.*—A coarse, heavy and very strong material of jute or hemp, used for foundation work by upholsterers, and also as a covering for walls and floors. It also forms the foundation of linoleums and floor oilcloths.

*Cachemire.*—A type of Oriental patterns and colorings resembling Persian effects.

*Canopy.*—A suspended covering intended as a protection or shelter. Bed canopies consist of metal frames, from which are suspended coverings of netting which completely enclose the bed. The term canopy is also applied to the tester of a bed, and sometimes to the covering of a wall decoration, such as over a lambrequin.

*Chenille.*—A pile fabric used largely for draperies and table covers. It is made with a fringed cotton or silk thread for the weft and a fine cotton yarn for the warp. Both sides are finished alike, the design, if any, being formed entirely of the filling, or fur, the pattern being brought out in the weaving in the same manner as that of a tapestry carpet.

*Chenille Cord.*—A fancy cord made of silk and wool, or entirely of silk or wool, for decorative purposes. It is used largely for upholstery fringes and embroidery and in appearance is thick and velvety.

*Chijimi.*—A Japanese drapery silk, 30 inches wide, dyed in fast colors.

*Chintz.*—A species of calico printed in colors and generally glazed. It is used to some extent for draperies and furniture covering.

*Chintz Braid.*—A species of cotton galloon printed in small patterns.

*Chirimen.*—Also known as Japanese silk crêpe. A crinkled, puckered silk fabric printed in various bright colorings and designs, often used for drapery purposes. A similar fabric woven of cotton is used for various upholstery purposes.

*Cluny Lace Curtain.*—A curtain composed of a center of net ornamented with an edging of Cluny lace.

*Cluny Tapestry.*—A strong, heavy variety of tapestry, usually woven in ecclesiastical designs and intended for use as hangings or curtains. The materials used are wool and silk.

*Corduroy.*—A corded pile woven fabric produced by a species of pile weaving in which the pile is formed in loops of varying length. When these loops are cut the effect produced is that of a series of rounded ridges separated by depressions in which the foundation cloth is visible at times. In the lighter textures corduroy is used for draperies, furniture covering and other upholstery purposes.

*Cretonne.*—A strong cotton fabric, usually plain woven and soft finished, printed in floral designs suitable for draperies, furniture coverings, etc.

*Curtain Damask.*—An upholstery fabric of silk or other material, woven with a satin ground and figure.

*Curtain Drapery.*—Goods sold by the yard for sash and window curtains, such as organdies, nets, Swiss muslins, Nottingham laces and other open mesh fabrics. *Curtain muslin* includes all cotton or other fabrics

so used, if woven in a fabric resembling muslin.

*Curtain Tapestry.*—An upholstery fabric consisting of two systems of warp and weft, woven in large, bold patterns. Curtain tapestries are usually woven with silk threads on the face and cotton, worsted or jute yarns for the interior portion.

*Cut Work.*—A term used to describe various classes of appliqué work by which decorative designs, panels, etc., are applied or inserted in various hangings.

*Damask.*—A twilled fabric woven with satin ground and figure; usually self-colored, but at times different colored threads are introduced, as in a brocade. In the true damask the ground and pattern are worked out in satin weaves, one at a right angle to the other.

*Denim.*—A heavy twilled cotton fabric, usually dyed in plain colors, and sometimes woven in stripes and checks. *Art Denim* is a finer grade of denim, usually 36 inches wide, and sometimes printed in allover patterns. It is used for draperies, pillow tops, furniture covers and numerous other purposes.

*Drawn Work.*—A method of ornamenting certain fabrics by pulling out some of the threads, the purpose being to show openings through which contrasting colors may sometimes appear.

*Embossing.*—The process of producing raised figures upon the surface of textiles, leather, etc. Embossing on velvets and similar fabrics is accomplished by passing the goods between heated metal rollers, upon which suitable patterns have been cut. In needlework it is customary to emboss by working over and through a pad of fabric, cord or hair.

*Embroidery.*—The art of producing ornamental designs upon fabrics by needlework. Embroidery is conceded to be one of the earliest forms of decorating fabrics for either household use or dress purposes. The great value of embroidery lies in the individuality of the work and in the modifications of which it is susceptible. It may be divided into two principal classes: (1) the production of designs entire, and (2) the fastening of detached pieces as in appliqué or embossing work. There is no decorative fabric upon which embroidery of some form has not been used, and in the work every known fiber and numerous metallic threads are utilized.

*Embroidery Canvas.*—A term embracing the various weaves of cotton, linen, silk and woolen fabrics used for making any of the numerous embroidered articles which enter into the decoration of the home. These fabrics, of whatever material, are woven in regular square meshes of uniform sizes so that the length of stitches may be easily regulated.

*Embroidery Cotton.*—A soft twisted cotton thread, either dyed or bleached, used for embroidering. It is put up in balls and skeins and ranges in thickness from No. 6 to No. 24.

*Embroidery Silk.*—Soft twisted threads of pure silk of various thicknesses. These include twist, floss, filo, rope and etching silks. They are to be had in all colors.

*Escurial.*—A term used in embroidery and textile designing to describe winding line effects.

*Festoon Drapery.*—A ready-made curtain for windows and archways, usually made of damask and fringed.

*Filling.*—The threads which extend from side to side of a fabric. In lace curtains the filling represents plain net, upon which the pattern is mounted.

*Frieze.*—Any horizontal strip or band of an ornamental nature placed upon a wall.

*Fringe.*—An extensively used trimming made of threads or cords of various thicknesses. Fringes are also made by fraying or raveling the edges of a fabric.

*Furniture Cord.*—A small rope of cotton, silk or other material, the strands of which may be of varied colors. It is used for upholstery trimmings.

*Gimp.*—A narrow flat trimming of rather open design, used for borders of curtains, furniture trimming, etc.

*Genapping.*—A process of singeing worsted yards, such as are used in some fringes.

*Gobelin Tapestry.*—A class of rich French tapestries produced at the national establishment of the Gobelins, in Paris.

*Holland.*—A plain cotton or linen fabric largely used for window shades. It is to be obtained in two varieties, glazed and opaque, the latter being made impervious to the sun's rays by a sizing of oil and starch.

*Irish Point Lace Curtain.*—A curtain with a foundation of fine netting, upon which is appliqued a large flowing pattern in strips of cambric. This cambric is basted in position, then stamped with the design, which is next worked in in coarse thread on a bonnaz machine. The curtain is next washed and starched, after which all surplus cambric is clipped away with scissors.

*Lambrequin.*—A sort of shallow curtain used to cover the upper part of an opening; a short curtain or drapery suspended from a mantel-shelf.

*Leavers Lace.*—A type of bobbinet made on a machine invented in 1809 by John Heathcoat, of Nottingham, England, and improved in 1813 by John Leavers. This lace forms the foundation of most lace curtains, the decoration being added either by appliqué work, or by the use of jacquard mechanism in the weaving.

*Macramé.*—An ornamental cotton upholstery trimming formed of a long fringe of coarse threads of cords, usually knotted into geometrical designs.

*Madras Works.*—A species of embroidery upon printed silk or cotton goods in which the embroidery outlines and emphasizes the pattern.

*Moreen.*—A closely woven fabric of wool or mohair filling with a cotton warp, woven in imitation of moiré antique and used for curtains.

*Net Curtain.*—A type of lace curtain consisting of a centerpiece of netting and a border of lace; sometimes a net ornamented by some form of appliqué work.

*Nottingham Curtains.*—A type of machine-made lace curtain. Originally made in Nottingham, England, but for the last twenty-five years they have been made in steadily growing quantities in this country. The machines on which these curtains are produced can be operated for any width up to 400 inches. They are always three or four yarns used in making these curtains—bobbin, warp, spool and extra beam.

*Pékin.*—A term used to designate alternate stripes extending from end to end of the material, *i. e.,* along the warp.

*Persian Pattern.*—Any design made in imitation of those peculiar to real cashmere shawls. The conventional Persian type of

patterns consists of a grouping of curved cone figures with the background filled in with flowers, leaves, etc.

*Pile Fabrics.*—Materials woven with a pile surface, as velvet, plush, velour, velveteen, corduroy and carpet.

*Pillow Cord.*—A fancy string or small rope of cotton, or silk, used for trimming edges of chairs, couches or cushions.

*Plush.*—A cut pile fabric of silk, cotton, flax or wool, woven with the pile deeper than that of velvet; used extensively for draperies and other upholstery purposes.

*Quilling.*—A narrow border, pleated or fluted, to resemble a row of quills.

*Renaissance Lace Curtain.*—Any curtain, whether of net or silken fabric, ornamented with Renaissance lace.

*Rep.*—In furniture covering, a heavy wide material of cotton, wool or silk, or a mixture of these materials, woven with transverse ribs and sometimes ornamented with a pattern usually of a large floral design.

*Sash Curtain.*—A short curtain intended to screen the lower sash of a window.

*Scrim.*—A thin cotton fabric of loose, open texture, used for curtains and draperies.

*Shade Cloth.*—Heavily sized, opaque cloth used for making window shades. See also *Hollands.*

*Swiss Tambour Curtain.*—A net curtain very similar to Brussels, but coarser and of cheaper construction. There is none of the hand work as on a Brussels.

*Tambour Muslin Curtain.*—A curtain of fine, sheer muslin, ornamented with chain stitching in scrool designs.

*Tambour Work.*—A form of embroidery especially adapted to the ornamentation of curtains, etc.

*Tapestry.*—A fabric used for hangings, screens, etc., originally made entirely by hand and consisting of a series of warp threads bound together by short colored threads, individually fastened in position and, by their selection, forming the pattern. *Real Tapestries,* as those so made are now called, are too expensive for general use and have been superseded by regularly woven fabrics which closely resemble in appearance the originals. These machine-made goods are called *Curtain Tapestries* and are used for curtains, hangings, table and furniture coverings, etc.

*Tassel.*—A pendant ornament consisting generally of a mold covered with threads which hang in a thick fringe.

*Ticking.*—A firm twilled fabric of cotton or linen, usually ornamented with woven stripes or printed figures, used chiefly as a covering for mattresses, pillows, etc.

*Valance.*—A short curtain used upon a bedstead, either around the frame upon which the mattress rests or around the head of the canopy. A valance is also used to fill in the upper part of an opening, such as arch or window, where other drapery is used.

*Warp.*—The threads or yarns which extend lengthwise in the loom and across which the weft is thrown in the process of weaving.

*Weft.*—The threads which extend across the fabric from side to side and with the warp form the foundation of the goods. Also called the woof or filling.

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